July 11, 1991, defence expenditure is indicated as follows (in Nepalese Rupees):—

1027.214 (1989-90 Actual); 1136.118 (1990-91 Revised Estimates) 1429.685 (1991-92 Estimates).

Bangladesh spends approximately 15% of its total budget on defence matters. The expenditure during 1990-91 and 1991-92 has been Tk 1179.96 crores and Tk 1209.83 crores respectively.

Myanmar has earmarked $ 1.22 billion for defence during current financial year 1992-93. This is about 13.67% of its estimated GDP.

Killing of Indian Fisherman Near Katchatheevu

@1652. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Indian fisherman are being shot at and killed by Sri Lankan Navy near Katchatheevu and this is creating a panic in the sea coast of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether Government propose to frame a new scheme to protect the life and rights of the Indian fishermen near Katchatheevu Island; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The Government are aware of incidents of attack by Sri Lanka Navy on Indian fishermen on the Sri Lanka side of the International Boundary line. Government have taken up all such cases with the Government of Sri Lanka who have conveyed that strict instructions have been issued to Sri Lankan Navy to restrain from any violence against Indian fishing vessels and to escort straying vessels to the Indian side of the International Boundary line. The International Boundary line is delineated by the Indo-Sri Lanka Maritime Boundary Agreements of 1974 and 1976 under which sovereignty over Katchathateevu rests with Sri Lanka. There is no change in the Government's position on these Agreements. However, Government are making a study to examine the modalities by which the extent traditional rights of Indian fishermen in the area can be exercised.

@ Previously Unstarred Question 1190, transferred from the 7th May, 1992.

Diplomatic Relations with Kabul

1653. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India back the new Kabul regime with full diplomatic status;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any envoy from the new Government contacted their Indian counterpart to know about our stands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) We have officially acknowledged that the new Mujahideen Council is functioning as the interim Government of Afghanistan.

(c) Our Ambassador in Kabul has conveyed this position to the representatives of the Government of Afghanistan.

Payment for Indian Police Contingent in Namibia

@ 1653A. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount paid by the United Nations per person to Government for its Police Contingent sent to Namibia in 1989-90;

(b) whether this amount was transferred to members of Indian Police Contingent; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

@ Previously Unstarred Question 962, transferred from the 6th May, 1992.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The U. N. paid an allowance ranging from US $ 62/ to US $ 80/ per day per person, depending upon location in Namibia and whether housing or food was provided, directly to the Indian Police Contingent deputed to Namibia. These amounts were paid over and above their pay and allowances and other admissible benefits that they continued to receive in India from the Government. In addition, the Government was reimbursed the cost of providing monitors at a standard rate of US $ 950/ plus a supplement of US $ 280/ per month per person based on 25% of the authorised strength of the contingent. This was on account of pay and allowances, mobilisation charges and compensation for dislocation of Police personnel. Also, US $ 70/ per person per month was reimbursed as usage factor for personnel clothing, gear and equipment including personal weapons and ammunition. These amounts have been transferred to the concerned Police Units.

Visit of U. S. Diplomats to Ayodhya

@ 1653B. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI :
DR. BAPU KALDATE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a diplomat of the United States Embassy visited Faizabad and Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh) on the 9th April, 1992 and left on the 10th April, 1992 and was accompanied by an Indian national;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had any prior information regarding the visit and the purpose of these visits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) According to established diplomatic practice and consistent with the norms of our open democratic society, diplomats accredited to India can legitimately travel within the country to visit places and meet people from all walks of life in discharge of their duties. Prior permission is only required for visiting restricted areas.

Cost orders issued by the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs

1654. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK :
SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of Cost Audit orders issued during the last three years, yearwise;

(b) what are the details of Cost Audit Reports received for complying these orders;

(c) what are the details of Cost Audit Reports not received in compliance of these orders and what action was taken in the cases where the reports were not received; and

(d) what action was taken on the reports which were received by his Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Details of Cost Audit Orders issued and reports received during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 are indicated below :

	1990-91	1989-90	1988-89
Total Orders issued	688	801	761
Orders withdrawn	(76)	(52)	(72)
Exemption granted	(8)	(21)	(16)
Net Orders issued	604	728	673
Reports received	359	586	535
Balance	245	142	138

@ Previously Unstarred Question 1003, transferred from the 6th May, 1992.